

Update on Prospective Teacher Assessments

Professional Educator Standards Board

www.pesb.wa.gov



Prospective Teacher Assessments

The PESB shall:

“Establish the prospective teacher assessment system for basic skills and subject knowledge that shall be required to obtain residency certification pursuant to RCW 28A.410.220 through 28A.410.240”






West-B (basic skills)

“For the purposes of this section, “basic skills” means the subjects of at least reading, writing, and mathematics. Beginning September 1, 2002 . . . passing this assessment shall be required for admission to approved teacher preparation programs and for persons from out-of-state applying for a Washington state residency teaching certificate”

- RCW 28A.410.221 (1)(a)

Applies to admissions decisions post September 1,
2002






West-B (basic skills)

“On an individual student basis, approved teacher preparation programs may admit into their programs a candidate who has not achieved the minimum basic skills assessment score established by the Washington PESB. Individuals so admitted may not receive residency certification without passing the basic skills assessment under this section”

- RCW 28A.410.221 (2)(b)

Programs may admit students who have not taken/passed West-B.





West-B Activities

1. **Technical Advisory Committee**

- Panel of national and state experts established to advise the PESB on development and implementation of West-B

Linda Darling-Hammond, Stanford University

George Engelhard, Emory University

Stephen Klein, Rand Corp.

William Mehrens, Michigan State University

Gordon Ensign, former Assessment Dir., CSL/OSPI

Kathy Kimball, University of Washington

Duncan MacQuarrie, Testing Dir., Tacoma S.D.





West-B Activities

1. Technical Advisory Committee
2. **Develop and Issue RFP**
 - With review and advice from legal counsel, WACTE, other ed associations





West-B Activities

1. Technical Advisory Committee
2. Develop and Issue RFP
3. **Review Proposals, Select Vendor**
 - Vendor presentations to PESB, follow-up questions, TAC report/presentation, selection of NES





West-B Activities

1. Technical Advisory Committee
2. Develop and Issue RFP
3. Review Proposals, Select Vendor
4. **Conduct Job Analysis**
 - Review EALRs, WA Residency Cert requirements, WAC, RCW, other materials – basic skills knowledge required of WA beginning teachers and applicants to teacher prep





West-B Activities

1. Technical Advisory Committee
2. Develop and Issue RFP
3. Review Proposals, Select Vendor
4. Conduct Job Analysis
5. **Develop Test Objectives**
 - Based on job analysis. Guide development of test items and test forms.





West-B Activities

1. Technical Advisory Committee
2. Develop and Issue RFP
3. Review Proposals, Select Vendor
4. Conduct Job Analysis
5. Develop Test Objectives
6. **Content Advisory Committee**
 - Representing WA higher ed prep & K-12 educators with content expertise in reading, writing, and mathematics. Approves test objectives and test items





West-B Activities

1. Technical Advisory Committee
2. Develop and Issue RFP
3. Review Proposals, Select Vendor
4. Conduct Job Analysis
5. Develop Test Objectives
6. Content Advisory Committee
7. **Fairness Review Committee**
 - WA educators representing diversity of state. Approves test objectives and review items for fairness.






West-B Activities

1. Technical Advisory Committee
2. Develop and Issue RFP
3. Review Proposals, Select Vendor
4. Conduct Job Analysis
5. Develop Test Objectives
6. Content Advisory Committee
7. Fairness Review Committee
8. **Content Validation Survey**
 - Using approved test objectives, survey of higher ed faculty, teachers and principals re: whether basic skills knowledge on West-B is valid. Reality check of formal job analysis





West-B Activities

1. Technical Advisory Committee
 2. Develop and Issue RFP
 3. Review Proposals, Select Vendor
 4. Conduct Job Analysis
 5. Develop Test Objectives
 6. Content Advisory Committee
 7. Fairness Review Committee
 8. Content Validation Survey
 9. **Item Development**
 - Based on validated test objectives
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West-B Activities

1. Technical Advisory Committee
2. Develop and Issue RFP
3. Review Proposals, Select Vendor
4. Conduct Job Analysis
5. Develop Test Objectives
6. Content Advisory Committee
7. Fairness Review Committee
8. Content Validation Survey
9. Item Development
10. **Communications/Outreach**
 - Websites, Q&A, presentations – legislative committees, SBE, WACTE, Ed Assoc conf (WERA, WASA/AWSP, PEAB, PTA) flyers, press releases

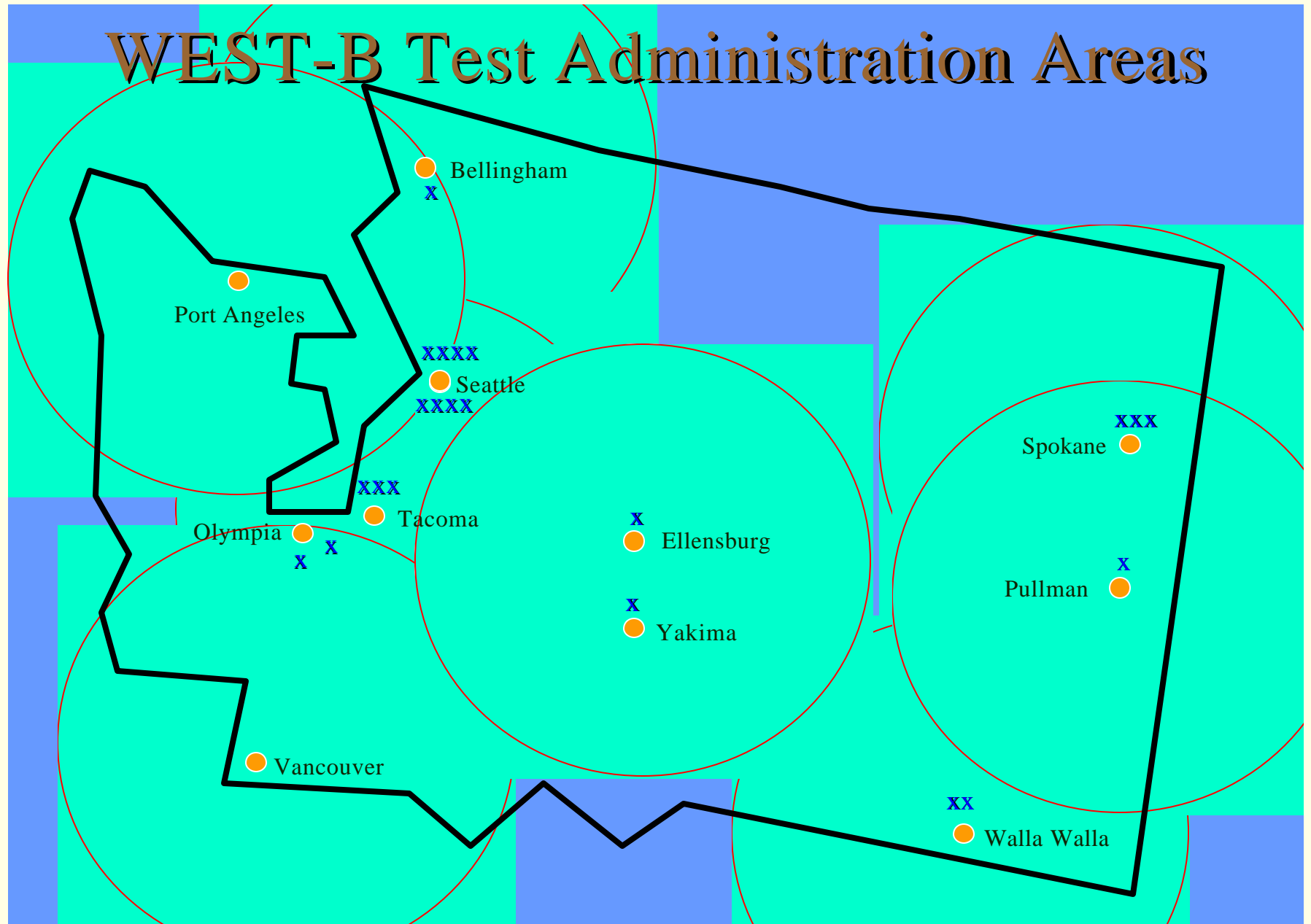




West-B Activities

1. Technical Advisory Committee
 2. Develop and Issue RFP
 3. Review Proposals, Select Vendor
 4. Conduct Job Analysis
 5. Develop Test Objectives
 6. Content Advisory Committee
 7. Fairness Review Committee
 8. Content Validation Survey
 9. Item Development
 10. Communications/Outreach
 11. **Identify test sites**
 - Selected based on specification of PESB, balancing cost with proximity and frequency
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WEST-B Test Administration Areas






Testing Locations

Bellingham / Mount Vernon (6 times)

- Ellensburg (6)
- Port Angeles (2-3)
- Pullman (2-3)
- Seattle (6)
- Spokane (6)
- Tacoma (6)
- Vancouver (3-4)
- Walla Walla (3-4)

Sites selected based on criteria to ensure optimal testing conditions, test security, and ease of access for test-takers





West-B Activities (cont.)

12. **Schedule Test Dates**

- August 24 – first full administration (7/19 registration)





West-B Activities (cont.)

12. Schedule Test Dates

13. **WEST-B Website**

- (www.west.nesinc.com) (www.pesb.wa.gov)





West-B Activities (cont.)

- 12. Schedule Test Dates
- 13. WEST-B Website
- 14. **Publish Registration Bulletin**





West-B Activities (cont.)

12. Schedule Test Dates
13. WEST-B Website
14. Publish Registration Bulletin
15. **Item Field Testing**
 - 20 institutions already scheduled. Administered on campus in existing classes.





West-B Activities (cont.)

- 12. Schedule Test Dates
- 13. WEST-B Website
- 14. Publish Registration Bulletin
- 15. Item Field Testing
- 16. **Establish exemption policy**





Exemption Policy

“The Professional Educator Standards Board may establish criteria to ensure that persons from out-of-state who are applying for residency certification and persons applying to master’s degree level teacher preparation programs can demonstrate to the board’s satisfaction that they have the requisite basic skills based upon having completed another basic skills assessment acceptable to the Washington PESB or by some other alternative approved by the Washington PESB. . . .The PESB may permit exceptions from the assessment requirements on a case-by-case basis”


- RCW 28A.410.220





Exemption Policy


Issues:

- Content validity of other tests for this purpose
 - Comparability of other tests/measures
 - Recency of other tests
 - Fairness
 - Uniformity / single standard – legislative intent
 - Legal defensibility of using other measures/tests
 - Administration dates & out-of-state candidates
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Exemption Policy

Recommendations of TAC:

- West-B should not be waived based on attainment of baccalaureate degree
 - Waivers should not be provided for teaching experience
 - Waivers should not be provided based on performance on other tests of measures until:
 - Sufficient empirical data collected to determine equivalency of two measures
 - TAC review data and criteria and make recommendations to PESB
 - Any potential comparable test should be “national” which includes reading, math and writing sample
 - PESB should review West-B exemption policy for Fall 2003 after analysis of data from operational test admin
 - 1-year waiver for out-of-state teachers applying for certification – provisional certification
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West-B Activities (cont.)

12. Schedule Test Dates
13. WEST-B Website
14. Publish Registration Bulletin
15. Item Field Testing
16. Establish exemption policy
17. **Item Field Test**
 - 20 institutions scheduled to administer in classes + community colleges and incoming alternative route candidates






West-B Activities (cont.)

12. Schedule Test Dates
13. WEST-B Website
14. Publish Registration Bulletin
15. Item Field Testing
16. Establish exemption policy
17. Item Field Test
18. **Establish Passing Score**
 - Criterion, not norm-reference test. Will have standard-setting committee of higher ed / K-12 educators and TAC






West-B Activities (cont.)

12. Schedule Test Dates
 13. WEST-B Website
 14. Publish Registration Bulletin
 15. Item Field Testing
 16. Establish exemption policy
 17. Item Field Test
 18. Establish Passing Score
 19. **Score Reporting**
 - Scores released to institutions only by permission of examinee
 - Institution policies re: protection of privacy apply to West-B just as GRE or SAT
 - NES will work with institutions on transmission needs. Typically electronic transfer via internet
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West-E (endorsement/subject knowledge)

- One test for each endorsement area
 - Not instructional methodology
 - September 1, 2003 – available
 - September 1, 2005 – required “to receive endorsement for certification purposes”
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West-E Activities

- RFP Developed and Issued
 - Presentations from vendors
 - Review from TAC
 - PESB to select vendor May 14-15 meeting
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